



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

KARRINE RAGIL

Examiner: Tam M. Nguyen

Serial No.: 10/042,248

Group Art Unit: 1764

Filed: 11 January 2002

For: HIGH OCTANE NUMBER GASOLINES AND THEIR PRODUCTION USING A
PROCESS ASSOCIATING HYDRO-ISOMERISATION AND SEPARATION

DECLARATION UNDER RULE 37 C.F.R. §1.132

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I, Slavik KASZTELAN, being duly warned, declare and say as follows:

THAT, I am a French citizen holding the titles of Engineer delivered by "Ecole des Hautes Etudes Industrielles de Lille" in 1982, of "Docteur Ingénieur" delivered by "Université de Lille" in 1984, residing at 69006 Lyon, France, 97 quai Charles de Gaulle.

THAT, I have been engaged on research by "Institut Français du Pétrole" in their Kinetics and Catalysis Department since 1988, where I have been continuously and actively in charge of researches in the fields of hydrocracking, hydroisomerization, dewaxing and hydrogenation of aromatic compounds. I am since September 2002 the manager of the Division "Catalysis and Separation". I also have more than 5 years experience in designing petroleum refinery processes.

THAT, I believe that a research refinery engineer of ordinary skill in designing petroleum refinery processes has about the equivalent of my education and experience.

I declare further:

THAT, I am familiar with the contents of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/042,248, filed in the United States on January 11, 2002, which relates to a process associating hydroisomerization and separation sections.

THAT, I declare that it would have been reasonable to such an engineer of ordinary skill, upon reading the present application (U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/042,248) to have understood that the feed to be treated is a fresh feed not previously separated to obtain di-branched and tri-branched paraffins therefrom, for the following reasons: In the processes of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/042,248, there is no indication of any separation of multi-branched species prior to the feed passing to an isomerization step. On page 16, line 23, it is stated specifically that "fresh" feed is employed.

Furthermore, the nature of the feed is described on pages 12 and 13 of the application. It includes hydrocracking naphthas and cuts from atmospheric distillation as well as light reformates as noted in the last example of the specification. Common to these feeds is that they contain the straight chain, mono-branched, di-branched and tri-branched paraffins, including at least C7 paraffins. It is clear from the specification, including the description of the figure 1A that these fresh feeds have not been treated so as to remove di-branched and tri-branched paraffins. Instead, the entire feed is passed to an isomerization zone and then the separation of the resultant isomerate occurs consequently in a subsequent step.

Thus, an engineer of ordinary skill upon reading U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/042,248 would conclude that the inventors had possession of processes at least as early as January 11, 2002, which include the steps of claims 6, 7, 38 and 39 of the above captioned application wherein the feed is a fresh feed not previously treated so as to separate di-branched and tri-branched paraffins therefrom.

The undersigned declares further that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information or belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 Title 18 of United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Rueil-Malmaison, September 19, 2006



Slavik KASZTELAN